



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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October 16, 1996

Gary Jacobsen  
Zions First National Bank  
Main & Third South  
Moab, Utah 84532

Re: Verification of Closure/Reclamation Procedures, San Rafael Energy, Inc., Snow and Four Corners Mines, M/015/013 and M/015/014, Emery County, Utah

Dear Mr. Jacobsen:

The Division received your telefax on October 8, 1996, which transmitted a telefaxed memo which you received from Mr. Vern Shumway of Poor Boy Mining Company. Mr. Shumway's memo briefly outlines the closure methods he used to reclaim the Probe and Snow mine shafts. The memo was forwarded in response to our earlier verbal request for a detailed description of the methods used to seal/close off the respective mine shafts and tunnels at these mine sites.

During the September 25th Hearing, the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining requested verification that the shafts and tunnels at these sites had been closed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan. Because Division and Bureau of Land Management staff had not personally witnessed the closure of the mine openings, we could not confirm what measures had actually been used to close them. I called you after we received your telefax and informed you that Mr. Shumway's explanation was not sufficient to meet our needs. I informed you that I would send a follow-up letter giving you some guidance on the type of supplemental information we would need on the mine closures.

The following supplemental information must be provided to assist us in making a positive finding regarding proper closure of these mine openings (shafts and tunnels).

- 1, Photographs (if available) which clearly illustrate the closure techniques used to seal/close each of the openings.
2. Detailed "as-built" drawings/diagrams of the shaft/adit closures along with a detailed written description.

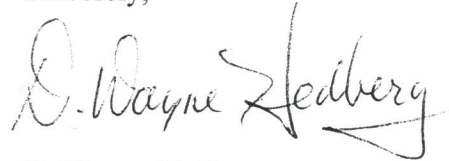
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3. A signed and notarized statement from another person(s) who actually witnessed the closures. If required, this person would also need to be prepared to testify under oath before the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining on this matter.
4. Any receipts of billings for supplies used in the construction of the shaft/adit closures.

Because of the obvious public safety concerns associated with improper closure of mine openings, it is critical that we are able to obtain the necessary information to confirm proper closure. If you are not able to provide sufficient information to satisfy the Board's request for appropriate confirmation, we may have no option other than to require you to uncover the reclaimed openings to demonstrate that proper closure was achieved. Subsequent regrading and reseedling of reimpacted areas would also be required following confirmation.

Please provide the above requested information as soon as possible, but no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 21, 1996. We plan on making a follow-up report to the Board during their October 23, 1996 hearing in St. George, Utah. Thank you for your continued cooperation and immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



D. Wayne Hedberg  
Permitting Supervisor  
Minerals Reclamation Program

jb  
cc: Vern Shumway, Poor Boy Mining Company  
Mary Ann Wright, Associate Director  
M015013.clo

*Dean Nyffeler - BLM*  
*Neil Lemmon - BLM* *Pine Tree Office*